

her impressive academic accomplishments. I congratulate her upon being named a recipient of PG&E's 2012 Bright Minds Scholarship and wish her the best of success in her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 312, I was absent due to a family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

RECOGNIZING THE 2012 HIDDEN POND ENVIROTHON TEAM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2012 Hidden Pond Envirothon Team and congratulate them on achieving Second Place in the Virginia State Envirothon Competition.

The Envirothon Competition promotes problem-solving among high school students in the areas of forestry, wildlife, soils, aquatics, and other current environmental issues. What is most unique about the competition is the opportunity to work in the field with access to actual natural resource professionals. The competition aims to foster stewardship, improve management concepts and communication skills, and promote critical thinking, decision making, and team building.

This year's members of the Hidden Pond Envirothon Team are Liam Berigan (Robinson HS), Matt Baker (W. T. Woodson HS), Murjan Hammad (home-schooled), Owan Mulvey-McFerron (W. T. Woodson HS), and Peter MacDonald (West Springfield HS), with Coach Neal MacDonald. The team won first place in the local Fairfax County Envirothon Competition as well as at the Area II Regional Competition. This allowed the team to move on to competition at the state level at James Madison University in Harrisonburg. While competing against the top 15 teams from across Virginia, the Hidden Pond Envirothon Team placed second for the second year in a row. This year's oral presentation focus was titled "Low Impact Development and Nonpoint Source Pollution," for which the team placed first. Hidden Pond also placed first in the wildlife category, second place in the aquatics category, and third place in the forestry category.

I would like to offer special thanks to Mike McCaffrey and Jim Pomeroy. Mr. McCaffrey has coordinated the Envirothon Program at the Hidden Pond Nature Center for many years. His efforts have enabled the team to compete at the state level as Hidden Pond is typically the only team not sponsored by a high school. Mr. Pomeroy has served as Hidden Pond's Site Manager, supporting the Envirothon Team with great enthusiasm. Through their commitment and encouragement to this program, many of the students have gone on to become local volunteers or

work in careers focused on protecting the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2012 Hidden Pond Envirothon Team for their performance in the Virginia State Envirothon Competition.

CONGRATULATING THE NATIONAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the National Air Traffic Controllers Association on the 25th anniversary of the Union's founding.

NATCA represents more than 20,000 air traffic controllers and other aviation safety professionals who run the safest, most efficient air traffic control system in the world. These men and women are dedicated aviation professionals who come to work every day knowing that they have to perform their jobs with 100 percent accuracy 100 percent of the time. The American people entrust their lives and the lives of their loved ones to NATCA members each and every time they step on an airplane. This is a responsibility that NATCA takes seriously. Since NATCA's founding in 1987, the United States National Airspace System has maintained its record as the safest airspace in the world.

Mr. Speaker, NATCA's 20,000 FAA aviation safety professionals are dedicated federal employees. Our nation's incredible aviation safety record is due in part to the fact that these men and women are federal employees whose number one priority is to ensure the safety of the flying public. I applaud NATCA on this remarkable achievement and congratulate them on their 25th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING THE DEER PARK HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Deer Park High School Softball Team for becoming the 2012 5A State Champions. Winning the state championship is a great accomplishment that takes an incredible amount of effort, dedication and teamwork from every player. This win is Deer Park High School's first state championship title since 1955. Our entire community is proud of the Deer Park Lady Deer's success and hard work to bring home the state trophy.

In addition to winning the state championship, the Deer Park Lady Deer had an impressive season record of 31–8, with a district record of 8–2. In the state semi-final game, the team set a state tournament record for the most runs scored in a single inning by scoring ten runs in the fifth inning of the game.

The talent that exists on this team is exceptional. Out of ten eligible spots, Deer Park

players were selected for seven spots on the state 5A all tournament team. Those players include Kristen Davenport, Jo Rivera, Caitlin Plocheck, Lexi Fryar, Alexis Garcia, Haley Harrison, and Alana Tinker. Kristen Davenport was named the championship's Most Valuable Player, MVP, and also the Houston Chronicle's Girl Athlete of the Week for June 3, 2012. Caitlin Plocheck was also nominated for the Houston Chronicle's Girl Athlete of the Week.

Congratulations to the Lady Deer Softball Team from Deer Park High School for winning the 2012 State Championship in Texas. We are all very proud of your outstanding achievement!

HONORING SGT JOSEPH ANGEL CAPOCCIAMMA

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Joseph Angel Capoccia. Sergeant Capoccia passed away on Sunday, May 20, 2012, from complications of injuries sustained in service to his country in Iraq.

The son of Alan and Maria Capoccia, Joseph Angel Capoccia was born on May 29, 1987, and raised in Grove City, Ohio. He graduated from Grove City High School in 2005. A true patriot, Sergeant Capoccia joined the United States Army on May 23, 2006, just one week before his 19th birthday.

While proudly serving his country in Iraq, Sergeant Capoccia received the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Valorous Unit Award, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Army Service Ribbon, and Overseas Service Ribbon. He retired from the Army on April 7, 2010.

It is because of the sacrifices of men like Joseph Capoccia that we continue to enjoy the freedoms that we do today. I am deeply thankful for all that Sergeant Capoccia endured to preserve our freedom and for his heroism. He is survived by his wife, Kayla, and his children, Joseph Angel Capoccia, Jr. and Cheyenne Faith Capoccia, for whom he set an inspiring example of service and patriotism.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 15th Congressional District I would like to honor the service and memory of SGT Joseph Angel Capoccia.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. STEVEN LADENHEIM

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Steven Ladenheim. For the past 34 years, Dr. Ladenheim has served the city of Philadelphia with his extensive knowledge of otolaryngology.

A graduate of the Medical College of Pennsylvania, now known as Drexel University College of Medicine, he has won multiple awards